REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 10 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S. C. Section 102(b) as anticipated by Flitz, US Patent Number 3,564,978. Claims 1, 6, 7, and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as anticipated by Corsi, US Patent Number 4,942,271. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the material formerly in claims 6, 7 and 12. Claims 6, 7 and 12 have been cancelled. New claims 13 – 15 have been added. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 as amended recites a hinge recess (2, Fig. 2) including an end surface having a hinge hole (28, Fig. 2) and guide surfaces (22, 231) which form a corner in the recess. The hinge recess receives a hinge arm (1, Fig. 1) which includes a hinge pin (16, Fig. 1) sized and dimensioned to be received in the hinge hole (28, Fig. 1). The hinge pin includes a spacing member (15, Fig. 1) extending radially beyond the hinge pin which is initially guided to a first position at which the spacing member is seated in, and therefore at rest in the corner, and slightly offset from the hinge hole. From the first position, the hinge arm is slidable along the corner towards a second position, in which the hinge pin is inserted into the hinge hole, and the spacing member is unseated from the corner. To aid placement of the hinge pin in the hinge hole, the hinge pin is formed with a chamfer which guides the hinge arm into the hinge hole.

The Flitz reference illustrates a connecting rod 14 which is received in round bearing openings 28 and 30 in a piston 12. The connecting rod includes a piston pin portion 42, a first journal 46 smaller in diameter than the pin portion 42 and a second journal 48 larger in diameter than the pin portion 42. The journal 48 remains centered in an opening 30. The

Flitz reference therefore does not include a spacing member expanding radially from a hinge pin which is seated and unseated in a corner as a hinge pin is aligned with a hinge hole.

The Corsi reference discloses a plastic duct for enclosing conduit. The duct includes a base 10 which is rotationally connected to a cover 12 through a hinge. The hinge is provided by a curvilinear surface 32 formed at a first end of the base 10, which is received in an inner curvilinear surface 66 formed in the corresponding end of the cover 12. The opposing end of the base 10 ends in a hook 25 which is received in a mating inwardly facing hook 54 formed in the corresponding end of the cover 12 to form a latch for closing the duct. As the hinge is constructed of two curvilinear surfaces, the reference cannot disclose a hinge recess having guide surfaces which form a corner, or having an end surface with a hinge hole at the end of the corner.

Nether of the cited references, therefore, discloses either a corner formed of guide surfaces, a hinge hole formed at an end of the corner, or a spacing member which is guided into and out of seated engagement with the corner. Claim 1 and associated dependent claims 2 – 5 and 7 – 11 are therefore believed to be distinguished over the cited references. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

New claim 13 includes the subject matter of claims 1, 6, 7 and 11, prior to amendment. No new restrictions have been added beyond those in these claims. New claim 13 recites a cabinet for electronics including a frame and a removable door. The hinge arm is coupled to the frame, and the hinge recess is provided in the door.

The hinge connection, as described, is useful in connecting a door of an electrical cabinet to a frame. The hinge arm extends from the frame, and the hinge recess is provided in the door. The guide surfaces allow the heavy door to be approximately aligned with the

hinge hole in the recess when in the first position, in which the hinge arm is seated in the corner. When the door is released from the first position, the weight of the door causes movement to the second position, thereby allowing the door to be aligned with the hinge pin with relative ease.

None of the prior art references describe or suggest an electrical cabinet including a frame, a hinge arm, and a door including a hinge recess having guide surfaces. The applicants therefore submit that claim 13 distinguishes over the prior art, and respectfully request that claim 13 be allowed, along with associated dependent claims 14 and 15, which recite the same limitations as found in claim 12, now canceled, and claim 5.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued for claims 1 – 5, 8 – 11, and 13 – 15.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 that may be due on this application to Deposit Account 17-0055. The Commissioner is also authorized to treat this amendment and any future reply in this matter requiring a petition for an extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time as provided by 37 CFR § 136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____

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